



Practitioner's Docket No.: 892_019

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the application of: Akira WAKABAYASHI

Ser. No.: 09/908,945

Art Unit: 3625

Filed: July 19, 2001

Examiner: Robert E. Rhode, Jr.

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Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

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Elizabeth A. VanAntwerp
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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. Copies of each of the references listed on Form PTO-1449 are attached.

Also enclosed is a copy of a Japanese Office Action (with English translation) bearing a mailing date of September 10, 2002 from a corresponding Japanese patent application, and the U.S. PTO is directed thereto for a concise statement of possible relevance of the references cited therein.

The above information is presented so that the Patent and Trademark Office may, in the first instance, determine any materiality thereof to the claimed invention. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that these references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

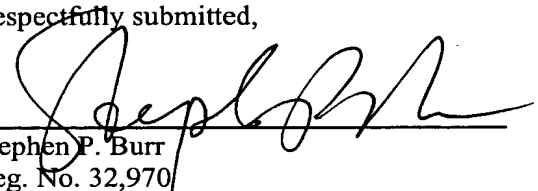
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The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-1446.

Respectfully submitted,

November 12, 2002

Date



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